

## OLD MA'S COFFEE SHOP, GATESHEATH - JAN 17<sup>th</sup> 2010

Would we, won't we? What about the weather? Frost was forecast.

Yes, we will go. Looks OK.

The struggle into unfamiliar Lycra, was not funny, so many layers and zips! But we persisted and eventually had ourselves and the bikes in the car, well down on normal schedule.

Surprise, surprise, by the time we had climbed to top Heswall, the heavy ground frost was very evident.

The Eureka café was packed. Queue out to the door, so their 4 weeks of near nil sales had come to a very noisy end.

Roy proved to be a popular leader: 16 gleaming bikes with their pale faced, apprehensive riders left The Mills and were soon up to a brisk pace on their way via the cycleway to Old Ma's Coffee Shop.



We had no 11's stop. Roy was determined to get to lunch well before midday; such is the reputation that Ma has built up for slow service!

Several other cycling groups were seen heading for The Ice Cream Farm, but, following a democratic vote, we headed for our planned destination.

We need not have worried. Our 'beans on toast with an egg on' plus a pot of tea were delivered within 11 minutes!



**Our sandwich eating section ate outside before joining us for tea and cakes.**

The ride home was superb. Just like Spring afternoon, and, considering the amount of road grit, broken glass and deep potholes encountered, we were lucky to have only one puncture on our way back to the Eureka.

**A wonderful sunset over the Welsh hills completed the day.**



Many thanks Roy.  
Bob Witton.